
SD Board of Massage Therapy Information & Updates

Volume 2 Issue 1

PO Box 1062
Sioux Falls, SD 57101-1062

January 2009

Continuing Education Requirements

Eight (8) hours of continuing education (CE) is required every two years (biennially) upon license renewal. Only 4 of those hours may be by electronic means. Also, the 8 hours must be earned during the immediate last two years of licensure. No other time period is applicable.

Codified Law 36-35-19. Continuing education requirements. Any person licensed under this chapter shall complete eight hours of continuing education relating to competence in the practice of massage on a biennial basis of a type and from a facility or instructor approved by the board. No more than four of the required continuing education hours may be obtained by electronic means. The board may waive the continuing education requirement upon proof of illness or hardship.

Administrative Rule 20:76:03:04, "A qualifying activity is any course with a clear purpose and objective which maintains, improves, or expands the skills and

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The Scoop about Scrubs & Wraps

As you may be aware, the Massage Therapy Board and the Cosmetology Commission discussed each other's scopes of practice. We concurred that each license type—whether massage therapist, esthetician, cosmetologist, or nail technician—must work within the boundaries of their license. The applicable Board will be notified should a licensee be found providing services outside their boundaries.

It was determined that the massage therapy law allows the licensee to provide wraps, scrubs, or the like ONLY if the licensee is trained in these services and ONLY if they fit within the massage therapy law, which is: ...the systematic mobilization of the soft tissues of the body through the application of hands or devices for the **purposes of therapy, relaxation, or education**... The intent of your services cannot be for beautification or exfoliating purposes.

Continuing Ed Requirements, Cont.

knowledge relevant to the licensee's field of practice. Self-study activities include internet courses, reading books or articles, or video/audio tapes and are not allowed unless testing or examination with formal, recorded passing scores are obtained. Contact hours must be obtained in qualifying activities related to the licensee's profession. Qualifying contact hours may be earned in any jurisdiction" (State).

MORE SPECIFICALLY

The Board of Directors voted at their October 14, 2008 meeting as follows: "The Board ONLY accepts continuing education pre-approved by NCBTMB and AMMA, and/or education that meets the definition of massage therapy as stated in **SDCL 36-35-1(2)**." Therefore, compliant CE must fall within these parameters:

36-35-1. Definitions. Terms in this chapter mean:

(2) "Massage," the systematic mobilization of the soft tissues of the body through the application of hands or devices for the purposes of therapy, relaxation, or education through means which include:

- (a) Pressure, friction, stroking, rocking, kneading, percussion, compression, or stretching;
- (b) External application of water, heat, cold, lubricants, or other topical agents; or
- (c) The use of devices that mimic or enhance actions done by hands;

Acceptable Proof of Continuing Education Requirements

Universally, the standard for proof of continuing education is in the form of a **Certificate**. The Certificate should document all relevant information; the minimum being:

- Title of Program/Workshop
- Sponsoring Organization
- Name of Participant
- Date of Program/Workshop
- Location of Program/Workshop
- Number of Hours Earned
- Presenter / Instructor Name

Let your presenter know these are the requirements for your licensing board and require a Certificate from them.

Create a permanent CE file to secure your records. Additional supporting documents may be required (see Rule).

Administrative Rule 20:76:03:05. Record keeping. The licensee shall maintain records to support credits claimed. These records must be maintained for two years after the date of renewal. A licensee shall keep the following records:

- (1) A brochure or flyer showing the type of activity, sponsoring organization, location, duration, instructor's or speaker's name, and contact hours earned; and
- (2) Attendance verification records in the form of completion certificates or other documents supporting evidence of attendance.

License Renewal Process

What is unusual about our licensure is that a licensee renews almost every day of the week, every week of the year!

And since a license is mandatory for practicing massage therapy, the law requires you to be renewed at least 30 days prior to your expiration date.

SDCL 36-35-16. Renewal of license. Any person holding a valid license under this chapter may renew that license by paying the required renewal fee and providing proof of compliance with the continuing education requirements set by the board at least thirty days prior to the expiration of the current license. Any person who submits a license renewal late shall submit a seventy-five dollar late fee. Any person whose license has lapsed shall reapply for a license.

Therefore, our process is to mail the Annual Renewal Form by the first of every month for the licensees due in 30+ days. Some of you will get the Renewal Form 30 days prior to your Due Date, whereas the others may receive it 45 days prior to their Due Date.

For Example: License Issue Date 7/15/07
Renewal Due Date 6/15/08
Renewal Form Mailed 5/1/08

Nonetheless, you must take the responsibility to be aware of your Renewal as well. According to the law quoted above, there is an **additional \$75 LATE FEE if you miss your license DUE DATE!** You cannot renew until you have received your Renewal mailing. **Anyone not renewed by their Expiration Date will have to apply under the new training requirements and take a national examination.**

Contact Information for the SD Board of Massage Therapy

Joyce M. Vos, Executive Secretary

PO Box 1062

Sioux Falls, SD 57101-1062

sdmtb.msp@midconetwork.com

<http://doh.sd.gov/boards/massage>

Ph 605 / 271-7103

All board, licensing, regulatory, etc inquiries should be directed to the Board office.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Laura Woitte, LMT - President

National American University

Sioux Falls, 605 / 336-4696

Jeff Holcomb - Secretary

Southeast Technical Institute

Sioux Falls, 605 / 367-8355

Rebecca Dykema, LMT

Avera St. Lukes Hospital

Aberdeen, 605 / 622-5770

Fifth board position is currently Vacant.

Timothy Faiman. LMT

A New Beginning

Rapid City, 605 / 718-2707

Mission Statement

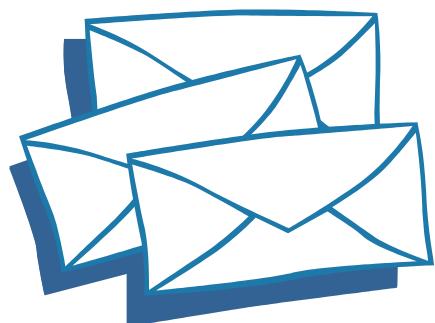
The mission of the South Dakota Board of Massage Therapy is to protect the health and safety of the public by licensure of qualified persons and enforcement of the statutes, rules, and regulations governing the practice of Massage Therapy, including processing and investigating properly filed complaints and holding hearings as warranted.

SD Board of Massage Therapy

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



**PLEASE KEEP US INFORMED OF ANY
HOME MAILING ADDRESS CHANGES.**

Your home address is where all your license-related mailings will be sent. It would be unfortunate if important licensure mail is unable to reach you. Thank you!

SDCL 36-35-21. Professional liability insurance coverage. Any person holding a valid license under this chapter and engaged in the practice of massage therapy shall carry professional liability insurance coverage with limits at or in excess of the minimum amount established by the board.

Please be reminded you must maintain your Professional Liability Insurance of at least \$250,000 for the duration of your license.

SDCL 36-35-8. Display of license. Any person engaged in the practice of massage in this state shall conspicuously display a valid license or certified duplicate license from the board in the person's place of business.

ARSD 20:76:06:01. Inactive license. An inactive license has no expiration date and can be activated by paying the current license fee and providing proof of at least eight hours of continuing education acceptable to the board in the two-year period preceding the activation request.